

MORNING 133,633
SUNDAY 185,696

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American Claims He Makes Regular Flights Over Cuba

Several times a month Alexander Rorke Jr. still flies over Cuba from a spot outside the United States with pamphlets for the phantom cells there.

"I have to be active," he told members of the Tuckahoe Woman's Club yesterday. He said the pamphlets tell the Cubans 140 different ways to commit espionage against the Castro government.

THE NEWSMAN, who was sentenced to death in absentia because of the films of Castro's Cuba he has shown on American television, was the first American reporter to be imprisoned there.

Rorke, who spent 10 days in

a Cuban prison in 1959, said he was introduced then to many evidences of pro-Castro leanings of the American embassy in Havana.

"You have no rights," an American embassy official told Rorke when he appealed for release.

"I had thought I would be commended for arguing and standing up against the intelligence agents who had imprisoned 600 people in an underground theater with one latrine, agents who had killed seven citizens of the United States and insulted two of our Presidents," Rorke said.

Ten weeks after Castro took over, the State Department labeled the Cuban regime "a friendly government," Rorke said. He charged that the attitude of the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was responsible for the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

"Fifteen thousand marine and army personnel were to land on the northern coast of Cuba; there was to be navy fighting support and Cuban exiles with their American trainers. Why the American help was canceled no one knows, although President Kennedy has taken the blame.

"The 1,500 men left could not do the job. What happened in effect was that we trained them and then delivered them to their enemy—and ours."

During the invasion, Rorke said, the fighting Cubans heard over the air from the American forces: "We still have no news from Washington. God be with you."

OF HIS IMPRISONMENT in Cuba and his subsequent release through actions of the American press, Rorke said he obtained information about missile bases, where they were, what kind of concrete was being used and other information. He said he ultimately sent this information to the State Department.

In the spring of 1960, a new type of exile was coming to the United States, the newsman reported. These formerly had fought for Castro as the "savior of the world," but now were seeking weapons against him. The CIA formed the Revolutionary Democratic Front to train in guerrilla tactics, yet "only 600 were in training camp with 20,000 clamoring to fight."

Rorke believes that Americans should do what they think is right, stand up for it and "to heck with world opinion." He thinks that Communists understand that "when you talk back you get somewhere."

He is not convinced, how-

ever, that such a show of talking back last October was as effective as the President thinks.

"There is not one shred of evidence that any so-called offensive weapons have been removed from Cuba. One hundred and 79 ships went in and seven came out. They have underground silos, and now we are going to remove bases from Turkey."

People imprisoned in Communist countries are begging for American know-how, he said. "We could break Moscow's economy in a few years by cutting off the flow of consumer goods."

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